



The Return of House Drama

On Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 April, House Drama returned to the Roxburgh Theatre with an exciting collaboration between Stanhope and Temple. Dennis Kelly's play 'DNA' examines the actions of a group of teenagers who, confronted by a shocking accident, make a series of terrible choices to cover up their actions. An edgy, ensemble-driven piece, this was an entertaining choice for this group of young actors to hone their skills under the directorial eye of Arabella Williams (Lower Sixth, Stanhope). Using a minimal set and bold lighting choices, the play worked perfectly in the intimate space of the Dobinson Studio and set a high standard for next year's participants to emulate.

DNA - A Director's Perspective

Directing Dennis Kelly's 'DNA' as our first post-pandemic House Play, in partnership with Stanhope and Temple, was a truly rewarding project. Performing to nearly 130 people over two nights made all the late rehearsals worth it. It was fantastic to see pupils from every Year Group step up, coming up with staging, lighting, and sound ideas, and supporting each other during every run-through. Tackling the play's tense atmosphere and shifting power dynamics gave us valuable insights into storytelling and character work. A special mention must go to Stepan Volkov (Upper Sixth, Temple), who balanced A Level revision with learning a full monologue at the last minute and delivered it flawlessly. Along the way, we learned to adapt quickly when props failed or lines slipped, developing problem-solving skills that go beyond the stage. This production strengthened our teamwork, forged new friendships, and gave first-time actors the chance to shine. Thanks to the Drama Department for making it possible - I hope other Houses get involved next year!

Simon Miller, Head of Drama



POLO



Over the course of the weekend on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 May, Stowe were invited to take part in the prestigious Copenhagen Cup held at Guards Polo Club in the beautifully manicured pitches of Windsor Great Park. The event, organised by Wellington College, has been running for 17 years and is named after Wellington's horse Copenhagen. It is a two-day event that sees the best polo schools in the country compete for both the Shield (in the lower division) and the coveted Cup, for the strongest teams. Stowe has always taken part in this event and last year was beaten in a nail-biting final by Wellington College.

This year Stowe fielded a very determined team made up of Captain Luca Natella (Upper Sixth, Cobham), Archie Heseltine (Upper Sixth, Cobham), Leander Sautter (Lower Sixth, Cobham) and Bea Leyland (Lower Sixth, Queen's). Our first Semi-Final was against Eton who were given a 4-goal head start due to the differences in the teams' handicaps. This meant that in the first chukka we needed to score 4 goals just to break even, however, our team was not perturbed and got straight to work. With an excellent cheerleading squad on the sidelines (including the Head!) the Stowe team quickly made up Eton's initial advantage and the goal scoring began! With incredible teamwork they won 12-6 with stunning goals from Luca and Archie, supported by the defensive plays of Leander and Bea.

In the glorious sunshine of Sunday morning our

A team headed for the ultimate Final against Cheltenham College. In March our A team beat Cheltenham in the Finals of the Schools National Championships, so it was clear that Cheltenham were keen to settle the score. Again, Cheltenham started with a one and a half goal head start due to handicap differences. Following long team discussions the night before, the Stowe team had a plan! Storming goals from Luca, Archie and Leander quickly took them into the lead. Bea kept the opposition from escaping with the ball with great defensive play.

At the end of the second chukka a fall from a Cheltenham player meant a sudden substitution for the opposition team (for the best player from the Eton side) which changed the dynamics on the field. However, in a stunning display of teamwork and determination the Stowe team became even tighter and with the best goal-saving backhand I have ever witnessed by Luca, and we went on to Win the Cup. The final score was 10-3½ to Stowe. Archie Heseltine was named Most Valuable Player of the competition, a very worthy accolade for such a talented player.

This has been a phenomenal year for Stowe Polo and clearly marks us as the best polo school in the country. I feel incredibly proud of this year's leavers, Luca and Archie, who have given so much to promote polo throughout the School and have been such wonderful teammates for the past five years.

Fiona Corthine, Head of Polo



Athletics

The first meet of the season was at Oundle on Saturday 26 April, where a good number of Stoics took the opportunity to compete in a competitive, but friendly atmosphere. Well done to the many Stoics who won their events, including Olive de Courcy-Ireland (Lower Sixth, Nugent), Eddie Hartigan (Fifth Form, Grafton), Will Catley (Fifth Form, Chatham), Mollie Davis (Fourth Form, Cheshire), and the boys' U17 and girls' U15 relay teams.

Stowe hosted an Inter Schools' Athletics event on Saturday 10 May. The stunning setting at our track witnessed a very strong display from the Stowe athletes with two wins each for Olive de Courcy Ireland, Izzy Gardiner (Lower Sixth, West), Izzy Cox (Upper Sixth, Cheshire), Woody Hamilton Hurst (Lower Sixth, Cobham) and Will Conelly (Third Form, Chatham) and one win for Otto Ankarcrona (Fifth Form, Walpole), Josh Williams (Fifth Form, Grenville), Henry Crabbe (Third Form, Cobham), Nathan Goje (Fourth Form, Chatham), Betty McDougal (Fourth Form, Nugent), Tochi Nwobodo-Diallo (Fourth Form, Nugent), the Senior boys' 100m relay and an overall win for the boys' Intermediate team.

Congratulations to Ross Priestly (Fifth Form, Winton) and Mary Taylor (Fourth Form, Stanhope) who both became County Champions on Saturday 10 May. Both are now ranked in the top ten in the whole Country for their events.

In the meet held at Bromsgrove on Saturday 17 May, Woody Hamilton Hurst, Mary Taylor, Ross Priestly, Will Conelly and the Intermediate boys' 100 relay also had wins.

Grant Seely, Head of Athletics



GREAT GATSBY SIXTH FORM CHARITY BALL

On Saturday 26 April, the Marble Hall was transported back to the 1920s as the Stowe Conservation Group hosted its most glamorous event yet, a 'Great Gatsby' themed fundraising ball. The night combined vintage elegance with lively entertainment, all in support of vital environmental causes. The event was enjoyed by over 285 Sixth Formers featuring a wide range of attractions, including a professional magician, card games and a DJ to keep the energy high, ensuring the dance floor was packed. One of the highlights of the night was the indulgent chocolate fountains, complete with marshmallows, an array of fruits, biscuits and pretzel sticks for dipping.

"This was by far the best event we've had," said one Upper Sixth pupil, "it was so well organised, and it was a great way to socialise with friends while supporting such an important cause". All proceeds from the event, which raised nearly £5,000, will go towards local conservation projects. The funds will allow us to run our 'Ickle Owl AR trail' at two of the Wildlife Trust's nature centres near Tring and Newbury this Summer, engaging more young children aged 2-7 in nature and wildlife conservation.

Daria Kulbayeva (Upper Sixth, West), Grace Reilly (Upper Sixth, West), Tamsin Cusiter (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) and Nigel Van Sandijk (Upper Sixth, Grenville)



Design Technology & Engineering



Lord Snowdon visits Stowe's DTE Centre

On the evening of Friday 9 May, Stoics and Staff gathered in the Henkel Workshop at the Howden Design, Technology and Engineering Centre for an inspiring and insightful presentation by Lord Snowdon, celebrated furniture designer and founder of The Snowdon School of Furniture.

Lord Snowdon's talk, titled 'Design Principles with The Earl of Snowdon', was delivered to an attentive audience of Fourth Form and Sixth Form Design, Technology and Engineering pupils. Drawing on his extensive experience as a designer, entrepreneur, and former Chairman of Christie's UK, Lord Snowdon shared the philosophy behind his approach to furniture making and the role of craftsmanship in a modern world.

His presentation highlighted the importance of proportion, materials, precision, and purpose in design, giving Stoics a rare glimpse into the mindset of someone who has successfully blended tradition with innovation. The discussion also touched on the legacy of British design, the founding of his company 'LINLEY', the educational ethos behind 'The Snowdon School of Furniture' and the importance of perseverance when working towards a final goal.

Following the talk, Stoics were given the opportunity to pose questions, which led to an engaging Q&A session. Lord Snowdon spoke openly about his early inspirations, the evolution of his career, and the future of design - encouraging pupils to pursue creative excellence, and to blend the available technology with traditional craftsmanship and detail.



To conclude the evening, the audience were treated to a rare and memorable experience: a close-up look at one of Lord Snowdon's earliest pieces from 1981. This finely crafted item demonstrated exceptional skill, with precise dovetail joints and pivoting mechanisms that captivated Stoics and Staff alike. It was a tangible illustration of the design principles he had spoken about - elegance, precision, and function.

The evening marked a significant milestone as the very first guest speaker event hosted at the newly opened Howden Centre. It set a high standard for the calibre of conversation and inspiration we hope to continue bringing to our pupils. We look forward to welcoming more leaders from the world of design, technology, and engineering in the months to come.

The Design, Technology and Engineering Department extends its sincere thanks to Lord Snowdon for his time, wisdom, and enthusiasm in sharing his journey with the next generation of innovators.

Martin Quinn, Head of DTE



THE STOWE PUTTER



Sunday 18 May marked the 58th Stowe Putter competition. First held in 1967, the competition is steeped in history, featuring memorable performances from players and special guest appearances over the years. Since the introduction of the Junior Jigger in 2004, the event has also welcomed talented young golfers from as young as seven, with the Putter open to players up to Year 8.

This year was no exception, with the standard of golf surpassing that of previous years. The weather was favourable, despite some breezy conditions in the morning, the afternoon brought sunshine for the back nine. The Stowe course was in immaculate condition, thanks to the outstanding work of Steve Curley and his team.

Both competitions followed the Stableford format, with all golfers playing from the red tees and receiving one courtesy shot per hole. Players completed nine holes in the morning before enjoying a delicious hog roast lunch. They then returned to the course for a second round of nine holes in the afternoon.

As scores began to appear on the leaderboard, the tension steadily grew. Group by group, players made their way back to the Clubhouse, where cream teas awaited and the final results were eagerly anticipated.

We have been truly blown away this year by the outstanding calibre of golf displayed by all participants. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who competed with such great sportsmanship and, above all, embraced the spirit of the day, enjoying the game and having fun.

It was a day to remember, and we look forward to welcoming you all back for next year's event.

Dusan Gavrilovic, Head of Golf



Results:

Closest to the Pin - Will Newell - Caldicott
Longest Drive - Dylan Calland - Winchester House
Best Girl Golfer - Otilie Walsh - Bedford Girls

Team Prize

1st Place - Wellington College Prep
2nd Place - Bishopsgate School

Jigger Competition

1st - Emile Cuanalo - Chandlings Prep
2nd - Freddie Mayfield - Spratton Hall
3rd - Alessandro Zhang - The Beacon

Putter Competition

1st - Sebastian Duffield - Wellington College Prep
2nd - Jonty Rae - Shrewsbury House
3rd - Emile Cuanalo - Chandlings Prep
4th - Flynn Kennard - Wellington College Prep



Sports Award Dinner

On Friday 16 May, we gathered to celebrate sporting excellence at Stowe. Following a record-breaking year of achievements, there was much to honour and enjoy.

Our Guest of Honour was former pupil Liv Thomas (Nugent 18), who was an integral part of the School's lacrosse programme. Despite being in her early 20s, Liv has already achieved an impressive amount in her sporting career.

The GB and England lacrosse midfielder had to wait two years for her England debut due to the Covid pandemic. However, when the moment finally came, she made it count, earning her first cap and going on to help the team secure a World Cup Bronze medal in a thrilling triple-overtime match.

In her speech to the pupils, Liv highlighted her lacrosse journey and spoke candidly about the adversity she has faced, including a ruptured ACL and a torn meniscus. Eight months on, she is still on the long road to recovery, as she works toward her goal of competing in the 2028 Olympics.

This challenging period has tested not only

her physical resilience but also her mental strength, as she has had to navigate the often-overlooked demands of being an elite athlete, balancing intense rehabilitation, financial pressures, and a full-time job, all while striving to remain at the top of her sport. Her message to the Stoics was clear: if you want it enough, you can reach your goals.

We were delighted to have Liv present the Sporting Colours and Player of the Season Awards, as listed. Among the highlights were the prestigious Triple Crown awards, presented to Stoics who have represented the School in first team competitions across all three terms. Congratulations to James Bristow (Upper Sixth, Grafton), Noah Cloete (Lower Sixth, Chatham), Hannah Campbell (Lower Sixth, Nugent), and Anna Maria Collinge (Upper Sixth, Nugent) on this exceptional achievement.

It was also a great honour to present a Lifetime Achievement Award to Isaac Michael, who will retire from Stowe at the end of term after 34 years of outstanding and dedicated service.

Cheryl Davis, Assistant Director of Sport

Player of the Season Award

Hockey Boys: Ben Sutton
(Upper Sixth, Winton)

Hockey Girls: Alessia Capella
(Upper Sixth, Stanhope)

Rugby: Ben Currie
(Upper Sixth, Chatham)

Netball: N'dea Lambert
(Upper Sixth, West)

Lacrosse: Maddie Baker
(Upper Sixth, Queen's)

Tennis: Bear Hewlett
(Upper Sixth, Cobham)
& Frederica Hodges
(Upper Sixth, Queen's)

Football: Rasan Bamoki
(Lower Sixth, Temple)

Football: Penny-Belle White
(Fifth Form, Nugent)

Badminton: Thomas Bicknell
(Upper Sixth, Croft)

Badminton: Madya Liu
(Lower Sixth, Stanhope)

Squash: Eitan O'Grady
(Upper Sixth, Temple)

Swimming: Sam Gray
(Upper Sixth, Winton)
& Isobel Cox (Upper Sixth, Cheshire)

Cross County: Mollie Davis
(Fourth Form, Cheshire)
& Ben Cousins (Fifth Form, Cobham)

Rowing: Alice Watson & India Gordon
(both Upper Sixth, Nugent)

Sailing: Sean Zheng (Fifth Form, Chandos)

Golf: Aroa Herron Berraondo
(Fourth Form, Lyttelton)

Polo: Luca Natella and Archie Heseltine
(both Upper Sixth, Cobham)

Riding: Araminta Spencer-Churchill
(Upper Sixth, Stanhope)

Basketball: Harry Langford
(Upper Sixth, Chandos)

Water Polo: Paul Ostroverhy
(Lower Sixth, Chandos)





On Saturday 22 March, the eagerly anticipated Inter-House Netball Tournament took place amidst a vibrant festival atmosphere at the Shop Courts. The event was designed not only to showcase the sporting talents of the pupils but also to foster a sense of community and School spirit. The day was filled with music, while a variety of gourmet food trucks offered an enticing selection of culinary delights, ensuring that both players and spectators were well catered for throughout the event.

The netball matches provided a thrilling display of skill and teamwork across all age groups, illustrating the dedication and passion the players brought to the court. As the sun shone brightly overhead, the Senior teams kicked off the competition, generating a palpable excitement amongst the gathered crowd. The opening round featured a highly anticipated clash between West and Nugent. After a tense and closely fought battle, West emerged victorious, a result that set a competitive tone for the afternoon's events and galvanised their supporters.

Following the Seniors, the Intermediate and Junior teams took their turn on the courts, with each House demonstrating remarkable talent and sportsmanship. The matches were not merely contests in netball; they were a celebration of camaraderie and community spirit, as pupils cheered for their peers and shared the thrill of each goal scored. By the end of the tournament, the accolades were well earned, with West House claiming the title for the Seniors, Cheshire securing victory in the Inters category, and Queen's triumphing for the Juniors. The Inter-House Netball Tournament was a resounding success, fostering a lasting sense of pride and unity within the School, and leaving all participants eager for next year's competition.

Charlotte Calland, Head of Netball



CRICKET

It was great to see three girls' teams playing in the block against Cheltenham on Saturday 26 April, girls' cricket is certainly moving forward rapidly at Stowe.

Stowe won six of the nine boys' matches against Cheltenham and all the A teams were victorious. Performances to mention are centuries for Azlan Kumar (Fourth Form, Grafton) and Gershaan Kullar (Third Form, Winton) and half centuries for Ali Barker (Fourth Form, Grafton) and Rushil Sharma (Third Form, Winton).

The 1st team have now won all three of their early season matches, including beating the Marleybone Cricket Club (MCC) comfortably on Tuesday 22 April, with a starring role played by Tim Short (Lower Sixth, Temple), who took a remarkable six wickets on his first day at Stowe.

Stowe cricket had a wonderful day on a stunning afternoon on Saturday 10 May facing Malvern College. We won 8 out of the 9 matches with some dazzling displays with the bat and ball. The best match was from the Junior Colts A team, where Stowe won on the last ball. There was also a very positive win for U15 girls! Well done to the following for their superb batting performances: Gurshaan Kullar 145 not out, Azlan Kumar 116, Harry Foster (Lower Sixth, Winton) 104, Jamie Bryden (Upper Sixth, Winton) 82, George Sleight (Fifth Form, Grafton) 62, George Hales (Third Form, Croft) 61, Finn Murphy (Third Form, Grafton) 50, Daniel Calland (Fifth Form, Chatham) 50. Well done to the 3rd team Vipers who put on an incredible 335 off 25 overs and the Yearling As who whacked 244 in their 25 overs.

Earlier in the week, Tim Short hit a century, and the emerging young star, Azlan Kumar scored another century. In the Senior Girls' Inter-House competition, Queen's won a thrilling Final.

On Thursday 15 May, our U17 team beat Solihull in the National Cup match, with a valuable 50 from Archie Lazarus-Ingman (Lower Sixth, Croft), putting us into the last 16 in the Country. We were drawn against Rugby School for the next match which was played on Saturday 17 May. Whilst it was a close match on the North Front, it will be Rugby who progress.

The stand-out Year Group on Saturday were the Third Form boys, who won all three matches. In the Yearlings A, Gurshan Kullar hit 88 and Rushil Sharma got 62 with Thomas Humphrey (Third Form, Croft) picking up four wickets. In the yearlings Bs Harry Timmis (Third Form, Grafton) hit a wonderful 101, he was supported by Alfie de Courcy-Ireland (Third Form, Chatham) with 50. Well done also to the 4th team and our three girls' teams, who are definitely progressing rapidly, including Ellie Spark (Third Form, Nugent) who hit 52.

James Knott, Director of Cricket

HOCKEY

An off season run out for our Senior girls' development team went on Thursday 24 April, with a victory over Towcester Hockey Club of 4-0.

Stowe **SPORT**



Climate Change Challenge Programme

Since January, ten Stoics have been working in teams to create innovative solutions that will help tackle the impacts of climate change, in areas including biodiversity, extreme weather, food security, and water scarcity. Teams are mentored by industry experts from companies such as EY, Microsoft and Vodafone. Throughout the programme pupils gain experience in creating a start-up business, growing their initial idea through to final product, with opportunities to pitch to investors for funding. Pupils learn about design thinking, creating a value proposition, minimum viable product and building a proof of concept, and finally pitching.

On Thursday 22 May, we delivered a series of action-learning workshops with the teams covering areas such as, Artificial Intelligence, Smart Devices and User Experience (UX) design. This opportunity helped our young Change Makers to learn vital digital skills from professionals while also developing their projects which will help the planet.

ArgiData

Oliver Lamberton (Lower Sixth, Grenville), Alfie Corthine (Lower Sixth, Croft) and Kaito Mbanefo (Lower Sixth, Grenville) are working with farmers to design a set of probes which have the ability to detect soil moisture, pH levels, temperature and nutrients. ArgiData provides farmers with high quality, real-time data based on their specific conditions, allowing them to optimise their growing conditions and improve food security.

Reef Rescue

Fifth Formers Eddie Hartigan (Grafton), Flora McDougall (Nugent) and Willa Bailey (Queen's) are designing an underwater drone with cameras and sensors to monitor and record data on coral reefs which is communicated via an App. They are also exploring how their amphibious drone could perform coral IVF.

AquaSave

Enzo Jacquemard (Cobham), Sophie Rojas (Cheshire), Emily Gauvain (Queen's) and Tallulah Havard (Stanhope) from the Fifth Form are creating a soil sensor that tracks desertification and sends drought alerts via an app. The app will also connect young people in schools across the world to increase awareness and funding.

Shelley Rowley, Teacher of Geography





During the final week of the Lent Term I had the great opportunity to travel to Pembroke House School in Kenya. Two hours north of Nairobi, the school sits on a 140-acre countryside campus in the heart of the Great Rift Valley. With distant views of the Eburru Hills and Aberdares, the school is nestled north of Lake Naivasha and to the south of Soysambu Conservancy, Lake Elementaita and Lake Nakuru, giving it a unique setting, surrounded by the rich and varied Kenyan landscape.

I was invited to support the pupils with their pre-season preparations in both rugby and netball. The school was able to make significant changes to the working week by allowing the pupils to exchange some academic lessons each day for sports masterclasses, which meant I was able to see all the pupils every day. The week was spent in glorious sunshine, aside from the occasional torrential downpour - rainy season is during March and

April. I was coaching each age group from U8s to U13s, with youth athletic development principles which could be integrated into their in-season programme.

The 1st XV rugby team also played a local side (Gilgil Vumbi) which was set up by the Deputy Head, Mike Aung, as a charity to support young aspiring rugby players. There was some impressive talent on show in both netball and rugby and it was a real pleasure to be able to coach them, even for such a short time.

It was a wonderful trip and fantastic to meet so many enthusiastic pupils, teachers and parents. Hopefully some may be inspired to visit Stowe!

**George Coote, Head of Athletic Development
& Performance Programme**



RAF Section: Lent Term Synthetic Flight

Sgt Luke Letchford (Lower Sixth, Temple), L'Cpl Tobi Jimoh (Lower Sixth, Chandos) and Cdt Patrick Kingsman (Fourth Form, Winton) completed an initial programme of training on simulated Cessna 152 and Cessna 172 aircraft. This involved basic handling, take-offs, landings, flying circuits, and cross-country navigation. Towards the end of term, they also experienced a taste of flying in poor visibility using radio navigational aids, and instrument landing systems.

Congratulations to Tobi who won the end of term competition, successfully landing a simulated Airbus A320. An astonishing piece of kit that will inspire and support Cadets for years to come.

Dr Charles Adkins, Pilot Officer RAF Section



Paella On The South Front

On Thursday 15 May the Spanish Department hosted an event on the South Front to celebrate the end of the year and say farewell to our Spanish Upper Sixth Stoics. We invited all our Sixth Form Hispanists, Fifth Formers choosing to start Spanish A Level when they join the Sixth Form in September, our wonderful Queen's leavers, and, of course, the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) faculty, along with some distinguished guests.

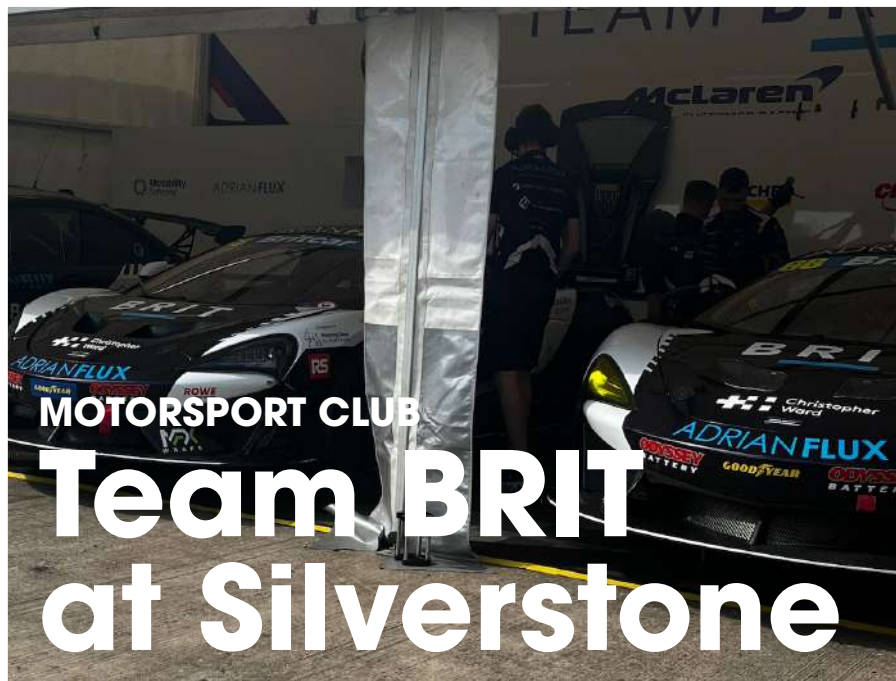
In addition to the large and delicious chicken paella - so tasty that not a single grain of rice was left - we enjoyed some smooth drinks "tintos de verano," as well as "chorizo parrilleros" and chicken skewers on the BBQ.

The event concluded with some lively Spanish karaoke and the presentation of humorous certificates to our Sixth Form Stoics.

We were thrilled that everyone could join us for this special occasion with both the Spanish Upper and Lower Sixth. We look forward to organising an even bigger event next year, hoping for equally great company and food.

I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the MFL faculty and House Staff who significantly contributed to making the paella event special for our Stoics.

Julio Morales Shearer, Head of Spanish



MOTORSPORT CLUB

Team BRIT at Silverstone



On Friday 2 May, the Motorsport Club and a group of boys from Temple were invited to Silverstone into the garage of Team BRIT. Team BRIT is the world's only competitive team of all-disabled racing drivers. Old Stoic Noah Cosby (Temple 22) races for team BRIT in an adapted car that allows him to fully use hand controls to drive without the use of his legs. During the visit everyone had the opportunity to talk to Noah, and some also chatted to another driver, Paul Fullick. Noah gave an interview with 'Concord & Victory' whilst we looked around the garage and at some of the cars. We had the fantastic opportunity to stand on the pit wall which we all enjoyed very much, even in the rain! Overall, the afternoon was very well spent and enjoyed by all.

Emily-Paige Rowson (Upper Sixth, West)

STOWE CHALLENGE



What. A. Day.

On Sunday 27 April the sun was shining, the atmosphere was electric, and the competition was fierce for the Stowe Challenge 2025!

From the start, teams were flying - sprinting through the assault course, hauling logs across the Bourbon in the log run, and flipping tyres with unstoppable determination.

In the laser clay pigeon shooting, it was all about steady hands and sharp eyes - and trust me, the pressure was on! The command tasks tested brains and teamwork under pressure, with tactical thinking needed just as much as strength.

The rowers powered through 1km each on the ergos, pushing for every last second, while the tractor pull had teams digging deep to haul a tractor 50 metres, three times, in a full-on battle of strength and grit.

Over at the track, the one-mile sprint relay saw lightning-fast 100m bursts as teams passed the baton with precision.

Meanwhile, in the pool, the swim relay was a test of stamina, with every swimmer digging deep for their House.

A huge shoutout to everyone who stepped up - especially the 'new' competitors who threw themselves into it, making this year's Challenge exactly what it is meant to be: all about participation, teamwork, and giving it your all. It was clear the Stoics showed leadership, analytical thinking, active learning and creativity to work their way through the afternoon. Most, if not all Change Maker skills were on show - supported by a huge amount of grit, determination and pure hard-work. Well done, Stowe.

Mike Rickner, Deputy Head (Pastoral)



Upper Sixth Leavers' BBQ Hosted by the Old Stoic Society

On Wednesday 7 May the Upper Sixth Stoics enjoyed a relaxed BBQ laid on by the Old Stoic Society, the alumni association for Stowe.

This event provided the perfect opportunity for Stoics to learn about the lifelong benefits of membership of the Old Stoic Society and enjoy some well-earned down time from revision. Old Stoic Society Director, Anna Semler (Nugent 05) and OS Vice Chair, Marcus Atkinson (Chatham 90), gave a talk to the group and encouraged everyone to make the most of their membership in the future.

We enjoyed a relaxed Summer evening, with delicious BBQ food on the lawns outside the Art School and encouraged the group to join us for their first Old Stoic reunion, which will take place at the end of the Michaelmas Term, once they have had their first term away from Stowe. A great many Stoics said they are already looking forward to these London drinks, after hearing how much fun last year's leavers had at their event!

Life Membership of the Old Stoic Society offers a wealth of advantages, including careers support, networking opportunities, lasting friendships, sports clubs, worldwide connections, access to a benevolent fund, and a huge variety of special interest clubs. Old Stoics can visit Stowe at any time, ensuring they remain connected to the School and its community. To find out more, [click here](#).

Charlie Evans, OSS Events Manager

Inter-House Singing

The final Saturday of the Lent Term saw a terrific House Singing Final take place in the Stowe Chapel on 22 March. After the various heats had taken place in the previous weeks, the standard was exceptionally high this year, while levels of entertainment and mutual support remained at the heart of the competition. Jessica Norton, Section Coach of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain and Director of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Youth Choir, was very complimentary about all the performances, and we congratulate so many Stoics who led by example, arranging, rehearsing and directing their colleagues with flair and enthusiasm. The Winners were West for the House Song category and Chandos in the Part Song category. Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to the Winners!

Jonathan Kingston, Choral Director



SERVICE@STOWE

Nature Conservation Projects

As members of the Conservation Club, we share a deep passion for nature. We are eager to explore, appreciate, and protect the natural world by contributing in small but meaningful ways. Every Monday, our members come together to learn about new plant species or participate in conservation projects in Stowe Gardens. Some of our activities have included transplanting snowdrops and identifying trees by their leaves.



On Monday 24 March, we met Iona in the Lamport Woods to help transplant snowdrops - *Galanthus nivalis* - one of the first signs of Spring. From January onwards, snowdrops begin to emerge through the frosted soil of woodlands, churchyards, or gardens. They often grow in clumps, each nodding white flower borne on a single stem, with grey-green leaves at the base. Our task was to assist in spreading snowdrops across the woodland floor after they had bloomed. Although their numbers increase each year, overcrowding can slow their growth. The most effective way to encourage their multiplication is to dig up the clumps, separate the bulbs, and replant them more widely spaced.

On Monday 12 May, we walked through the Elysian Fields to identify tree species. Surrounded by nature, our School hosts a diverse range of trees. Earlier in the year, we attempted to identify them by their twigs - an unexpectedly difficult task, as many twigs appear remarkably similar. While leaves are more distinctive, even they can be deceptively alike. For example, some leaves may appear smooth and round-edged but still belong to different species. Through this experience, we learned to identify several common trees on campus, including oaks and birches. Yellow birch leaves are dark green, elliptical, and pointed, with finely double-toothed edges. In contrast, oak leaves are longer than they are wide, featuring five or six rounded lobes.

Being part of the Conservation Club allows us to connect with nature in a unique and meaningful way. The fragrance of grass drifting on a warm breeze after summer rain is a welcome relief from the pressures of schoolwork. The thought of returning next year to find the woodland carpeted in snowdrops is uplifting. It is always rewarding to see the fruits of one's labour, and I am grateful that my efforts have made a small, positive impact on the School environment.

Flora Jin (Lower Sixth, West)



Prior to the Easter weekend (Tuesday 15 to Thursday 17 April), 60 Stowe pupils from the boys' 1st XI, boys' 2nd XI, girls' 1st XI and then Yearlings A XI returned to Stowe early to do three days of pre-season training and matches. The Junior Colts A did not attend as they had already been on a 5-day cricket tour to La Manga in Spain the week before.

The boys' 1st XI were on fine form with an enhanced middle practice against the Northants Academy. All the batters and bowlers got a workout. Archie Lazarus-Ingman (Lower Sixth, Croft) took 3 wickets and Fin Cloete (Fifth Form, Chatham) 2 for 25. With the bat James Bristow (Upper Sixth, Grafton) retired on 50 and there were contributions all the way through the order as batters were retired to give more players an opportunity. This meant the team were in form for their David Capel Cup match the following day (Wednesday 16 April) against Uppingham. Stowe scored 254 for 7 in their 40 overs with Fin Cloete registering his first century for the 1st XI. Archie Lazarus-Ingman scored fifty and Aayush Baluja (Fifth Form, Chandos) 43. In reply, Uppingham were bowled out for 128 with Tristan Dickinson (Lower Sixth, Grenville) taking 3 wickets and Connor Lawford (Lower Sixth, Walpole) 4, which included a hat-trick. After the Easter weekend the 1st XI played their annual fixture against the MCC (Marylebone Cricket Club). Stowe played very well, bowling the MCC out for 147. Debutant Tim Short (Lower Sixth, Temple) took 6 wickets with his left arm spin and in reply, the openers put on 80 with Noah Cloete (Lower Sixth, Chatham) scoring a 50, James Bristow 32 and Toby Sutcliffe (Fifth Form, Croft) 30*, to knock the runs off in 40 overs.

The boys' 2nd XI enjoyed a great pre-season at Stowe. Against Bucks, Stowe batted first and suffered a top order collapse, but the day was saved by George Sleight (Fifth Form, Grafton) and Blake Macleod (Lower Sixth, Chatham) as they put on a 100-run partnership, with Blake finishing on a very good knock and personal best of 86. Stowe bowled very well, with



Harvey Hughes (Lower Sixth, Grafton) being the pick of the bowlers with his off-spin variations as Stowe cruised home. Against Uppingham, who won the toss and elected to bat, Harvey Hughes bowled very well again and was the pick of the bowlers for pre-season. In reply Zoraiz Mohmand (Upper Sixth, Winton) played superbly for his 32 and was well supported by Harry Charlton (Lower Sixth, Grafton) (21*) but it was not enough at the end of the day as Stowe were bowled out and fell short by 30 runs.

The Yearlings A had an excellent pre-season campaign, winning all three matches against County U13 sides. Captain, Rushil Sharma (Third Form, Winton), scored his first hundred for Stowe (104 v Northants U13) as well as scoring 78* vs Bucks. The girls' pre-season was a great success; it was fantastic to see a range of Year Groups come together in a short space of time. Alice Crack (Fourth Form, Cheshire) with a 5-wicket haul against Uppingham, Felicity McIntosh (Third Form, Queen's) 42 off 36 vs Stony Stratford, Mimi Pilcher (Fourth Form, Cheshire) 32 off 29 also vs Stony Stratford.

James Knott, Director of Cricket

Hattrick Hero

Newly appointed 1st XI Captain, Georgia Brophy (Upper Sixth, West), took an incredible hattrick away to Cheltenham College in the first match the season on Saturday 26 April. The Cheltenham No.3 who had just hit a quickfire 50 was the first victim. Brophy clean bowled her, pitching the ball on middle stump and getting a little movement away to nick the off-stump bail. The second wicket was a mirror image of the first and this caused a fair bit of excitement. Brophy bowled the perfect ball on middle stump giving herself every chance to take a third consecutive wicket and clean bowled the Cheltenham No.5 - cue huge celebrations in the field!

Brophy then backed up her impressive bowling display (4-0-19-3) with 42 runs off 36 balls with the bat.

Well done Georgia!

Ben Scott, Girls' 1st XI Head Cricket Coach



Swansong

Sixth Form Drama pupils present their dramatic Swansong

In the closing days of the Lent Term, the Upper Sixth drama pupils presented their final performances of the year. The first piece of the evening set a high standard, with an expressionistic interpretation of Sophie Treadwell's play 'Machinal'. Written in the 1930s, Treadwell's play examined the impact of an increasingly mechanised and impersonal world on a young woman pressured into social conformity. Presented in an Artaudian style, the play became a disconcerting, ritualistic happening with bold performances from all members of the ensemble. The audience, like the protagonist, became uncertain what was reality and what was illusion as a series of nightmarish visions unfolded around her. At certain points the audience were drawn into the action, forced to become part of the young woman's suffering by playing instruments or beating time. Claudia Kilonback (Cheshire) was impressive in the role of the young woman, her anguish and confusion palpable as she attempted to negotiate her unfolding nightmare. Romayo Seaton (Cobham), smooth and sinister as Mr Jones, was the perfect foil to Kilonback's young woman, whilst Neve Ntumba (Stanhope) and Sophie Ellenberger (West) were by turns hypnotic and staccato in a range of supporting roles that brought energy and edge to the piece. The work may have left some members of the audience wondering but the visceral power of the work was undeniable, and it was exciting to see the cast working in such a bold, expressionistic style.

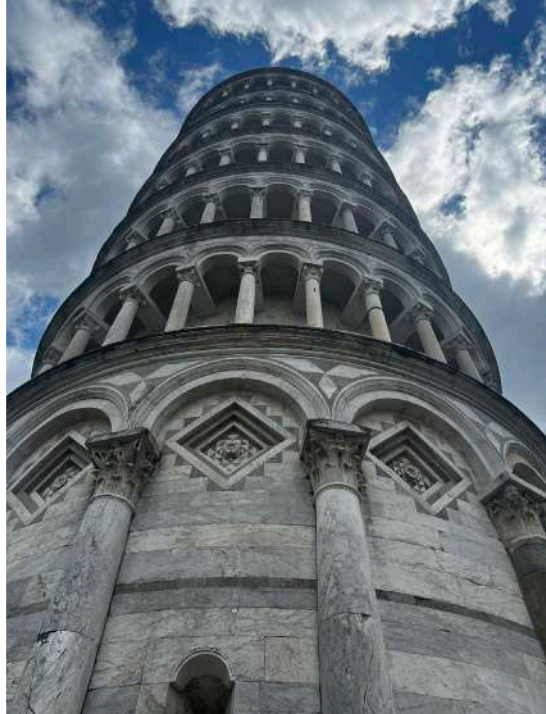
Though they had also chosen Artaud as their practitioner, the second group to perform transported us to a world redolent with symbolism and visual metaphor. Also written in the 1930s, Lorca's 'Blood Wedding' was influenced by Surrealism, and it was the quasi-mythical middle section of the play that the group

chose to present. The audience entered a space that evoked a church - incense scented the air, candles flickered, a choir sang, and the audience were seated on hard benches. Buckets of blood, earth and water featured in the set dressing, and the audience were drawn into a dream-like world where gesture and movement often conveyed as much as the spoken word. Obsessed by the ghosts of the past, Tilly Kingsbury (Stanhope) gave a compelling performance as the Mother of the Bridegroom, cold and domineering with James Smith's (Winton) Father of the Bride offering an effective contrast, optimistic and bucolic. The tense relationship between the Bride, Grace Reilly (West) and the Bridegroom, Jack Riley (Walpole) was effectively realised and the tension increased palpably with the arrival of Daniel Goje's (Chatham) brooding portrayal of Leonardo. The play's movement sequences provided some of the play's most memorable moments: an arabesque dance between the Bride and her former lover, the earthy aggression of the masked woodcutters and the final fatal fight sequence between the Bridegroom and Leonardo, all made effective use of sound and lighting. Another memorable sequence came with the appearance of the moon, played by Skye Quie (Stanhope) - a pale arm extending through the curtains with a tap-tapping of steely fingernails, an impressive costume design by Lola Morgan (Cheshire) helping to evoke the cold mystery of this character.

The final performance of the evening offered another stylistic contrast as Stepan Volkov (Temple) vividly conveyed the emotional strain of a survivor of the First World War. A few simple props and convincing characterisation were enough for Stepan to hold the audience spellbound, rounding off the evening with a moving monologue from the play 'The Unreturning'. The evening was an excellent showcase for the creativity and commitment the A Level class have shown throughout the course, and we wish them well with their final exams!

Simon Miller, Head of Drama





On Saturday 29 March, a group of Design, Technology and Engineering pupils from the Fifth Form and Sixth Form travelled to Italy to take part in a Design, Technology and Engineering tour exploring some of the country's most iconic centres of innovation. Over five days, the group followed a carefully curated itinerary that connected the historical roots of engineering with cutting-edge design, all against the backdrop of Italy's rich cultural landscape.

The Stoics' early departure meant arrival in Pisa by mid-morning, where they wasted no time immersing themselves in the first chapter of their experience. After a visit to the magnificent Pisa Cathedral, they climbed the world-famous Leaning Tower; a remarkable feat of medieval engineering, and one that still provokes fascination today. The visit provided an ideal launch point for a week centred around the evolution of design, architecture, and mechanical ingenuity. A short video of the trip to Pisa can be found [here](#).

On Sunday, the group travelled around Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance and a city synonymous with creativity and innovation. A highlight of the day was the Leonardo da Vinci Interactive Museum, where pupils were invited to engage with working models of da Vinci's machines. Through hands-on interaction with mechanisms including early flying machines, hydraulic systems, and motion converters, pupils were able to explore the principles of engineering and problem-solving that underpin much of today's design and technology. A link to the video of the trip can be found [here](#).

There was also time to explore Florence itself, including a walk across the historic Ponte Vecchio. This medieval stone

bridge, lined with artisan shops and rich in architectural heritage, served as a fitting symbol of design enduring through centuries.

From Florence, the Stoics travelled north to Bologna to visit the Lamborghini Museum, where they explored the history of one of Italy's most revered automotive brands. From vintage classics to concept models, the museum offered a close-up look at automotive design through the decades. A link to the Lamborghini Museum trip can be found [here](#).

This was followed by a rare and privileged tour of the Ducati Factory and Museum. While photography was not permitted within the production areas, Stoics observed the assembly lines and design processes that bring these high-performance motorcycles to life, offering a powerful insight into real-world engineering at its most advanced.

The trip demonstrated the enormous value of hands-on learning beyond the classroom, enabling pupils to connect their academic studies with real-world applications. By seeing, touching, and exploring the systems and processes behind some of the world's most iconic designs, Stoics were able to develop a deeper understanding of engineering, creativity, and innovation.

The timing of the visit is especially relevant, as Stowe opens the new Howden Design, Technology and Engineering Centre, a state-of-the-art facility that will further enhance our offering in this essential area of education. The trip affirmed the School's commitment to Design, Technology and Engineering as disciplines central to preparing Stoics for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow's world.

Martin Quinn, Head of Design, Technology and Engineering





EQUESTRIAN

During the Southview Winter Championship Finals on Saturday 3 - Monday 5 May, Lola Price (Fourth Form, Cheshire) and Cosmo won their championship class, jumping a double clear in the 1m first round, then a speedy clear in the 1.15 jump off.

Lola and Freddie jumped double clear in both the 1.15/1.20 Open Handicap and the 1.15 Members' Cup to take Second and Fifth.

Lola and Freddie are currently ranking 1st on the British Showjumping Pony Silver League across the whole of the country, having accumulated the most points for being placed since 1 April 2025.

Nancy Plant, Head of Equestrian



Inter-House Tennis

The latest Inter-House tennis tournaments at Stowe were a fantastic celebration of sport, spirit, and sunshine. Played in wonderful Summer weather on Saturday 10 May, the courts were filled with energy and enthusiasm as pupils from across all Year Groups competed with determination, pride, and a strong sense of fair play. The standard of tennis was impressive, and it was clear that all participants were fully committed to representing their House with passion and integrity.

Across the tournaments, matches were fiercely contested but always in the right spirit. Senior players set the tone with focused, high-quality rallies and strong leadership, while Junior players rose to the occasion, showing great promise and resilience. It was a joy to see pupils encouraging one another, celebrating each other's successes, and embracing the team aspect of these events.

Congratulations go to the Winning Houses:

Chatham took home the title in the Senior Boys' competition, while Queen's impressively claimed victory in both the

Senior Girls' and Junior Girls' tournaments. Cobham emerged as Champions in the Junior Boys' category, and in the Third Form-only tournament, Nugent secured a well-earned Win. Each of these Houses demonstrated consistency, teamwork, and composure under pressure to come out on top.

The entire event was a credit to all who took part. The combination of competitive spirit, mutual respect, and outstanding tennis created a memorable series of tournaments that truly captured the essence of Stowe sport.

Dan Voyce, Head of Racquets





Dr Andrew C Webber and the (new) Hyacinth Girls: Every Third Thought

This term marked the final performance of the current line-up of the (new) Hyacinth Girls at Stowe.

On a beautiful evening in the Music Room, Peter You (Upper Sixth, Walpole) on double bass, Grace Reilly (Upper Sixth, West) and Emily Garwood (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) on vocals and myself performed a set consisting of songs written over the last few years plus a few that had not seen the light of day since the early 90s.

The 'folky' songs played homage to such luminaries as Lou Reed and Bob Dylan and several involved audience participation. Highlights included 'Miranda' (written in three minutes flat); 'Lay Me Down' (a personal favourite that never made it to record) and 'Different Seasons'.

Kasper Calvert's (Fourth Form, Chandos) sound mixing was superb and, as ever, Yeva Solop's (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) poster design was eye-catching and unique.

Sunny He (Upper Sixth, Chatham) was absent on this occasion but it was, nevertheless, a nice way to say goodbye to the pupils with whom I have been playing this year. As the man said, it's been an honour and a privilege...

Dr Andrew Webber, Acting Head of Film & Media Studies



On Monday 28 April and Thursday 1 May, in the first full week of the Summer Term our Arts Award, Third, Fourth and Lower Sixth drama pupils visited the Milton Keynes Theatre to watch the National Theatre's touring production of 'War Horse'.

The play was adapted from the novel by Michael Morpurgo (our Guest Speaker at Speech Day last year) and told the story of young Albert Naracott's determination to be reunited with his horse, Joey. Set during the dark days of the First World War, the play made clever use of lighting and sound to evoke the contrasting worlds of rural Devon and the horrors of the Western Front.

The most memorable aspect of the production though was the incredible puppetry that brought the horses to life on stage. Created by the Handspring Puppet Company, these huge puppets moved with such grace and authenticity that we quickly forgot that we were watching puppets: even the most sceptical equestrians in our party were impressed by the carefully observed interactions on stage.

It was a memorable night at the theatre - thanks to the Drama Department and Staff who supervised and made our two trips possible!

Simon Miller, Head of Drama



BASED ON A NOVEL BY MICHAEL MORPURGO / ADAPTED BY NICK STAFFORD / IN ASSOCIATION WITH HANDSPRING PUPPET COMPANY

Sixth Form Service@Stowe Colours

This term Service@Stowe Service Colours have been awarded to Upper Sixth pupils who have shown dedicated and or exceptional service to the community over the course of their Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth years. Some have been awarded colours for dedicated service to a single club or activity, others for their work across many societies.

Robert Layter (Chatham) and George Smith (Winton) for their work with elderly residents of the Maids Moreton Care Home.

Tamsin Cusiter (Cheshire), Grace Reilly (West) and Nigel van Sandijk (Grenville) for their work in the Environmental Projects group with special emphasis on the work they have done in further developing the Ickle Owl AR project to roll it out to sites beyond the National Trust at Stowe. In addition to doing the same work in this group Daria Kulbayeva (West) has also been a stalwart for the Primary School visiting programme and has achieved colours as a result of work on both activities.

Isabelle Hunponu-Wusu (Stanhope) for her work at Lace Hill Academy. In her Lower Sixth year the Primary School asked for a volunteer to learn how to help children with dyslexia to improve their reading skills. Isabelle volunteered, and was given a specific book designed to help dyslexic pupils with their reading. She had to learn to use the book, which required some very specific techniques, for instance, with regard to where a primary pupil had to sit based on whether they were left or right handed, and there were many other specific learning adaptations she had to accommodate. She embraced this fully, learning how to do the teaching and then helping numerous learners.

Amélie Chue Neverton and Isabella Fuller (both Cheshire) not only for their work in the Primary Schools but also for their historic endeavours in helping to produce a year's worth of conservation lessons which have been delivered by other pupils at Buckingham Primary School and George Grenville Academy and for teaching the lessons at Lace Hill Academy where they were afforded the opportunity last year to teach conservation.

Sky Quie (Stanhope) for engaging in three service projects Primary School Visits, Fundraising and the Willen Hospice AI eCommerce project.

Romayo Seaton (Cobham) for work at George Grenville Academy and for his work in the Ubuntu Society which has supported many local charities with drives to collect and distribute a variety of items across many projects.

Naomi Matheron (West) for her work at Buckingham Primary and in the Ubuntu Society. She has been a reliable and

consistent performer in both groups.

Amelia Taylor (West) for her excellent contribution to three societies. Amelia has been an exceptional contributor to our work at Lace Hill Academy where she has not only helped the primary school children with their reading but has taken charge of helping new starters, with locating pupils to read with from a variety of classes, teaching new Stoics the ropes about completing the reading record and generally guiding them with things they need to know about working with the primary pupils. She has frequently helped the same year group pupils at the primary school who like her and ask to read with her. Amelia has been a solid contributor to the Ubuntu Society and arranged donations through her work writing to people outside the school to bring them on board with our Ubuntu projects. She has also been a regular at the Willen Hospice AI eCommerce project, where she has become the go to expert on the use of the Listing Monster AI app and how it is used to create the listings for the hospice eBay shop. Amelia has also recently completed the compilation of a manual to allow new pupils to take the project forward once she has completed her time at Stowe.

Ben Bailey (Chandos) for his support of the Learning Differently activity at Bruern Abbey School in Bicester, for pupils with Special Education Needs, where he supported a variety of activities with pupils from the school, and also took a lead in organising other Stowe pupils involved in the club.

Alessia Capella and Sophie Cecil (both Stanhope) and Emily Echezarreta Aurrecoechea (Cheshire) for their work on the Street Child Committee. Alessia was instrumental from her Fifth Form year in becoming a strong leader of every facet of the club, putting in a massive effort arranging huge fundraising ventures, which included the Speech Day Auction and the Fashion Show amongst other ventures. She has been a tireless leader, manager and organiser. Sophie was fantastic at using her contacts and also contacting a vast number of people to find auction lots and clothes for the Fashion Show. Emily played a vital role in bringing in designers and make-up artists for the Fashion Show and managing them on the night of the show.

Mia Ortola-Madden and Emily-Paige Rowson (both West) for their dedication to the Library Project where they have engaged in processing books to make them ready to go on the shelves, created displays, organised libraries across the school, and doing the setup for library events.

Rowland Shuttleworth,
Head of Service@Stowe

Multi-Sport Trip



During the Easter break (from Monday 31 March to Friday 4 April), Stowe proudly launched its first-ever multi-sport trip, taking 20 enthusiastic Stoics to the renowned sports resort of Club La Santa in Lanzarote. This pioneering initiative offered pupils of all sporting abilities the chance to engage in a diverse and dynamic range of activities, in a setting designed to inspire participation and personal growth. The trip represented Stowe's broadening access to enriching, active experiences outside the classroom.

Club La Santa provided the perfect backdrop for this venture. With over 80 sports facilities and more than 500 weekly activities, the resort offers an all-sports inclusive experience, granting us access to state-of-the-art facilities and a comprehensive programme of activities led by expert instructors. The resort's diverse facilities, including tennis and padel courts, a football pitch, and a lagoon for water sports, ensured that pupils could explore a wide range of sports, regardless of their prior experience. The Stoics took full advantage of these offerings, participating in activities such as mountain biking through the island's unique volcanic terrain and surfing in the Atlantic Ocean. The trip was not only a celebration of sport, but also a testament to Stowe's commitment to fostering inclusion, adventure, and lifelong memories through physical activity.

Jess Reinhold, Assistant Head of Netball & Grant Seely, Head of Rugby





Stowe Rowing Trip to Italy 2025

During the first week of the Easter holidays (Saturday 29 March to Friday 4 April), I had the pleasure of being one of seven Stoics, accompanied by three teachers, who embarked on an incredible six-day rowing camp in Sabaudia, near Rome, Italy.

We all arrived at Gatwick bleary eyed on the first day having got up at an ungodly hour to make our flight, but the mood was good, and we were all looking forward to the experiences that lay ahead.

Gillian Lindsay, former Team GB rower, Olympic medalist and World Champion was there to greet us when we arrived, along with her assistant, Will Hetherington; both were to be our coaches for the duration.

We were all keen to unpack and get out onto the water and our first experience of rowing on the staggering 6km Lago di Paolo (Lake Sabaudia) at sunset on that first day did not disappoint. It was truly breathtaking!

The days that followed were very well organised - we had morning and evening sessions on the water and whilst the sun may not have shone every day, when it did the scenery was beautiful.

Gillian also made sure that there was time for School work during the day and a few of us managed to find time for some retail therapy in the village!

Gillian had towed her fleet of brand new Kanghua boats across the Alps for us to row in, and they

were amazing. We started off in singles and gradually proceeded to larger boat classes such as doubles and quads as the week progressed. This allowed us to transfer the skills and techniques we had developed in singles to the bigger boats.

We were lucky enough to be able to practice in combined crews with King's School Canterbury, who were also training there. We had the chance to test our strength in short sprints and finally we finished off with some side-by-side racing in four combined Stowe/Canterbury crews, which was the ultimate test of our speed.

For me, the trip was truly unforgettable, an amazing opportunity and I will look back on it with fond memories.

Thank you so much to Mr Rudkin for organising everything and making sure that it ran as smoothly as possible and also to Ms North and Dr Lyons for being brilliant helpers all week.

Same time next year?!

Libby Doughty (Fourth Form, Cheshire)



Aroa Shines at Spanish Under 16 National Girls' Championship

Aroa Herran Berraondo (Fourth Form, Lyttelton) continues to impress on the National stage, recently delivering a standout performance at the Spanish Under 16 National Girls' Championship. Demonstrating consistency and composure, Aroa finished in an impressive Fifth position with a total score of 3 under par.

In addition to her top five finish, Aroa earned the prestigious title of Under 15 Spanish National Champion, a testament to her talent, dedication, and promising future in the sport. Her achievements highlight her as one of the most exciting young golfers to watch in Spain.

Dusan Gavrilovic, Head of Golf

Rowing

The first Summer regatta in Cambridge on Saturday 26 April gave our rowers a chance to get some competitive experience. There were many strong performances and particular well done goes to the five rowers who won trophies on the day. Ari Lewis (Lower Sixth, Walpole), Ned Curry (Fifth Form, Croft), Hecco Harrison (Fifth Form, Temple), Ben Cousins (Fifth Form, Cobham) and Libby Doughty (Fourth Form, Cheshire).

The team travelled to Worcester for a regatta on Saturday 17 May. Well done to Coco Bartoszewski (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Libby Doughty who had another win and Ben Cousins & Hecco Harrison for winning the trophy for Open Men's Pairs, one of the regatta's premier events.

Andrew Rudkin, Head of Rowing



StOscars Race is Won

The hotly contested StOscars took place this term in the Music Room on Friday 9 May.

These are awarded for outstanding coursework on both the Film Studies A Level and the Creative Media BTEC. The films made by pupils had been previously screened at the 'and..ACTION' Media conference, which took place in March and, for the first time, had been voted for by the pupils in attendance.

StOscars were awarded as follows:

Best film - Sunny He (Upper Sixth, Chatham)

Best Director - Stepan Volkov (Upper Sixth, Temple)

Best Performance - Skye Quie (Upper Sixth, Stanhope)

Best Sound - Tarka Goodwin-Hudson (Upper Sixth, Grafton)

Best Editing - Luke Tomkinson (Upper Sixth, Chatham)

We were also able to give awards to the Lower Sixth film pupils who all attended a 'One Day Film School' the day before.

Best Film - 'The Other Woman'

Best Performance - Florence Blake (Lower Sixth, Cheshire)

Best Technical Achievement - 'The Fall'

The evening consisted of a lovely meal provided by the Catering Department and pupils were impressively attired. As the Upper Sixth are about to go on study leave this was also a nice way to end a successful year (BTEC Creative Media pupils have already sat their exams with very positive outcomes). I wish them every success in future and look forward to receiving my invite to the real thing in future, as I am sure we will be hearing much about some of them in due course.

Dr Andrew Webber, Acting Head of Media & Film Studies



On Friday 2 May, the Stowe Geography Society hosted its annual formal dinner, attended by 50 Stoics and Staff. The evening began with drinks in Mr Roxburgh's Garden on the South Front, followed by dinner in the Blue Room. Pupils enjoyed a geography-themed quiz and a captivating talk from our visiting speaker, Mr Pete Last, who is currently Head at Kingham Hill School and is a former Head of Geography at Stowe. His inspiring presentation reflected a deep passion for the subject, sparking thoughtful discussion and renewed enthusiasm among all who attended. The event was a true celebration of academic curiosity and the vibrant community spirit that defines the Society. The departing Upper Sixth Geography Society Presidents, Lulu Goaman (Lyttelton) and Henry Roberts (Chatham) handed over to the incoming President, George Rutherford (Lower Sixth, Winton). We would like to thank Lulu and Henry for their leadership and enthusiasm over the last four years and also thank all the Upper Sixth Geography Society members for their engagement in the activities that we have run over the years, from book projects to delivering inspiring hands-on geography sessions at our prep schools.

Shelley Rowley, Teacher of Geography





Allotment

Seeds of Spring: Growing Minds and Vegetables at the Stowe Allotment

The Allotment Project continues to flourish, bringing both joy and educational opportunities to our Stoics. This term, we have welcomed two new rescue hens into our brood, provided by the British Hen Welfare Trust. The hens are adapting well to their new free-range lifestyle, and we are observing their efforts to establish a harmonious pecking order within the group.

Furthermore, our commitment to improving the allotment's infrastructure is evident in the newly created enclosure for the hens situated in the orchard. The addition of this space not only enhances their living conditions but also helps to protect our delicate seedlings as we start to plant them out. The Spring bulbs have provided a delightful display, captivating both Stoics and Staff throughout the season and giving a warm welcome on arrival to the allotment.

We have also taken steps to ensure a sustainable future by planting three varieties of asparagus, which we hope will supply us with fresh produce for years to come. After relocating the rhubarb last year, it is satisfying to see it thriving and nearly ready for harvest in the coming weeks.

The installation of new natural fencing is progressing nicely, effectively connecting the allotment with the barn area. The warmer weather and abundant sunshine in recent weeks have resulted in a surge of rampant weeds, which pupils are diligently working to manage. The Allotment Project remains a testament to our pupils' commitment to sustainable practices and their consistent efforts at the Monday and Wednesday sessions. We always warmly welcome new members to sign up to the activity.

Charlotte Calland, Allotment Project



Supporting Willen Hospice

A Marathon Effort by Teacher of Physics, Paul Prouse

Willen Hospice is a vital organisation providing compassionate, expert care to adults facing life-limiting illnesses in Milton Keynes and surrounding areas.

Stowe already supports Willen Hospice via our Service@Stowe afternoon activity where pupils have the opportunity to prepare items for sale via the Willen Hospice eBay page.

Teacher of Physics, Paul Prouse, decided that on Bank Holiday Monday, 5 May, he would go one step (or rather many long and fast strides) further, to help the hospice. He took on the challenge of running the Milton Keynes Marathon, to raise funds for the Hospice, and duly completed the race. It was not easy and it was a painful experience at times, and for the next few days.

We invite you to support Mr Prouse after this incredible effort, by donating to Willen Hospice. You can visit his [JustGiving page](#), or you can scan the QR code below.

Thank you for your generosity and for standing with us in supporting this vital cause.

Rowland Shuttleworth,
Head of Service, Service@Stowe



SQUASH SEASON

This season has been an exciting and highly competitive one for our Squash teams. They all showed remarkable skill and determination throughout the term, making it a memorable and successful season.

Nationals Performance

After a strong first round performance in the National Squash competition, our teams convincingly qualified for the second round. However, the level of competition increased significantly as we faced top squash schools, some of which had international standard players. Despite the challenging matches at the start of the season, our players gained valuable experience and confidence, which fuelled our winning momentum.

A key factor in the losses of some tough matches was the unavailability of key players. Nevertheless, all teams showed resilience and improvement throughout the season.

Congratulations to all players for their hard work and dedication this season. The experience gained will be invaluable in future competitions and we look forward to another successful season ahead!

Dan Voyce, Head of Racquets



Awards Ceremony

To celebrate the outstanding efforts and achievements of our players, the following awards were presented:

Hardest Working Award: Raphael Viecei-Mellor (Lower Sixth, Winton)

Champagne Moment Award: Krishnan Nair (Upper Sixth, Winton)

Most Improved Player Award: Oliver Dickmann-Peña (Lower Sixth, Winton)

Player of the Season: Eitan O'Grady (Upper Sixth, Temple)

Match Results

1st Team: Won: 4-1 v Oundle | Won: 3-2 v AGS | Lost: v Cheltenham | Won: 5-0 v Bromsgrove | Won: 5-0 v Uppingham | Won: 5-0 v St Edwards
Won: 4-1 v Bedford | Record: 7 wins, 1 loss - an outstanding achievement!

2nd Team: Lost: 0-5 v Oundle | Lost: 1-4 v AGS | Lost: v Cheltenham | Won: 3-1 v Bromsgrove | Won: 5-0 v Uppingham | Won: 4-1 v St Edwards
Lost: 1-4 v Bedford | Record: 4 wins, 4 losses - a balanced season with strong performances.

Other Team Results:

Girls: Won v WHS girls | Under 16: Won v RLS | Under 14: Won v WHS



STOWE TENNIS

The boys' and girls' 1st teams got off to an excellent start against Oundle on Saturday 26 April. The girls' match was extremely close with all three pairs going to tie breaks in the deciding final sets. Pleasingly it was the Stoics who held their nerve best and won all three sets to set up the victory. Well done to Captain Freddie Hodges (Upper Sixth, Queen's) and 1st pair Tabi Acher (Lower Sixth, Queen's) and Isabella Bond (Lower Sixth, Queen's). The boys had a more comfortable afternoon, with number 1 pair, Captain Bear Hewlett (Upper Sixth, Cobham) and Beltran Ortega Goldaracena (Upper Sixth, Grafton) winning all their sets. The other stand out results were for the U16 boys who did not drop a single set, the 2nd team, the U15 girls and the U14 boys. On the whole, the fifteen matches against Oundle were evenly shared.

Our Senior teams have had another good week. On Wednesday 14 May the boys' and girls' first teams played on the grass courts at Magdalen College School Oxford, where both teams managed to adapt their games to suit the very different playing surface to secure narrow wins.

Both teams continued their winning form against Rugby School on Saturday 17 May, with youngest 1st team players, Gustav Franzén (Fifth Form, Cobham) and Oscar Chaing (Fourth Form, Walpole) shining brightly and winning all their sets for the boy's 1st team, and Izzy Bond and Tabi Acher doing the same for the girls' 1st team.

In other matches the boys' teams had a particularly good afternoon, winning the 1sts, 2nds, U16s and U14s. The U14s and 1st girls' also got the better of Rugby.

Dan Voyce, Head of Tennis



LSAS

Intermediate Stretch and Challenge Conference for Gifted Learners

On Friday 14 March, around 70 pupils from local secondary and prep schools joined us at Stowe in Roxburgh Theatre for a brilliant conference, organised by Julie Arliss of Academy Learning, aimed at stretching and challenging bright learners.

The day included memorable talks on the Philosopher Aristotle and Nano-technology and its impact. There was also an enjoyable interactive session looking at philosophical conundrums, which allowed all the pupils from the different schools to work together.

The day ended with a heated debate on animal rights and the pros and cons of vegetarianism between myself and Ms Arliss, which ended in a draw when it came to votes from the house. This was a genuinely exciting day and all our Third Form Lower School Academic Scholars (LSAS) pupils in attendance found the day to be both challenging and inspiring.

Dr Andrew Webber, LSAS co-ordinator

Maths Challenge

At the end of the Michaelmas Term six Stoics qualified for additional rounds of the UK Maths Trust Intermediate Maths Challenge. The follow-on competitions have some unusual names but are full of challenging mathematical problems that need to be attempted without a calculator. Tom Kent (Third Form, Winton) entered the Grey Kangaroo Competition for Third Form pupils, achieving a Silver certificate. Jan Li (Fourth Form, Chandos), Kelvin Liao (Fourth Form, Cobham), Sean Zheng (Fifth Form, Chandos) and Alex Fan (Fifth Form, Chandos) entered the Pink Kangaroo competition for Fourth and Fifth Form pupils. Jan, Kelvin and Sean all received Silver certificates and Alex put in an impressive performance on the day to achieve a Gold Award. Niamh Byrne (Fifth Form, Cheshire) was awarded the title of 'Best in School' and qualified for the Maclaurin Olympiad, which is the top competition for Fifth Form pupils, and she was awarded a Certificate of Merit, which is a fantastic achievement.

It is very impressive that Tom, Jan, Kelvin, Sean, Alex and Niamh qualified for these follow-on competitions, so very well done to them for taking part.

Here is a sample question from the Grey Kangaroo paper if you fancy testing your brain!

Ria has some £1 coins and some £2 coins in her pocket. She has 50% more £1 coins than £2 coins. She has £35 in total. How many £2 coins does Ria have?

A. 12 B. 10 C. 8 D. 6 E. 4

You can find the answer on the back page of Stowemail.

Sophie Penrhyn-Lowe, Faculty Chair Mathematics

Languages Open Mic Night

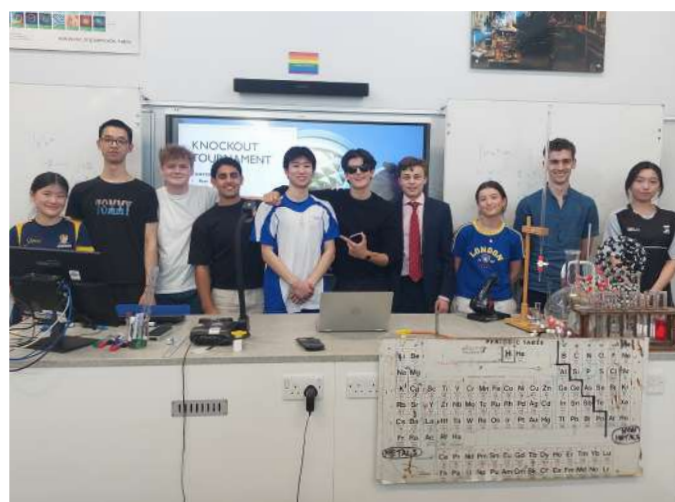
On Thursday 20 March, the Languages Society hosted its most anticipated event of the year - the Languages Open Mic Night. Featuring over 20 acts in over ten different languages, this was our largest and most diverse open mic night to date, proving that languages are very much alive and thriving at Stowe.

The audience enjoyed a vibrant mix of performances, including songs in Chinese, Japanese, French, German, Russian, and Spanish, an introduction to Sorani as well as a rousing rendition of the Saudi National Anthem. It was a true delight to witness Stoics of all ages confidently take to the stage and share their love of languages, cheered on by an enthusiastic crowd of peers.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all the teachers who supported the event, Mrs Holland for her excellent organisation, Kasper Calvert (Fourth Form, Chandos) for his amazing work on the sound system, and to Theo Tyrie for capturing the whole evening on video.

If you would like to see a glimpse of the night, please click [here](#).

Alice Tearle, Head of German



MATHS: Upper Sixth Integration Bee

Inspired by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Integration Competitions, our Upper Sixth mathematicians met recently for a knockout tournament of Integration skills. Differentiation and Integration are the core skills of calculus and are essential for solving problems involving rates of change, or complex areas and volumes. Whereas differentiation at A Level is a mechanical process that follows a simple set of rules, integrations are much more challenging and require mathematical intuition and a flair for problem solving.

Our ten contenders for the title were Ryan Zheng (Grenville), William Wu (Grafton), Talal Zahid (Cobham), Calan Heaven (Grenville), Eitan O'Grady (Temple), Ethel Zhu (West), George Smith (Winton), Emily Garwood (Cheshire), Grace Huang (Lyttelton) and Orlando San Bonifacio (Chatham).

With his characteristically inspired and precise work, William Wu is Stowe's Grand Integrator of 2025.

Dr Charles Adkins, Teacher of Mathematics

Languages Society



Benjeto



Biero



Biskvito



Burgero



Glaciaĵo



Kafo



Koktelo



Kolbasobulko



Kuketo



Kuko



Suŝio



Vino

On Thursday 1 May the Languages Society enjoyed a talk by our very own Teacher of Classics, Jim Sheppe, on the subject of Esperanto. We learnt about the history of this constructed international language, as well as its simple grammar rules and some of the reasons why the language has been enthusiastically embraced by some countries and shunned by others.

Rachel Holland, Teacher of French & German



SSAS

On Tuesday 29 April, Stowe's Scholars had the pleasure of attending a panel discussion on the topic of Eastern Europe. Contributors to the event focussed not on contemporary geopolitical fissures in the region, but on the experience of life behind (or near!) the Iron Curtain. Three Staff panellists - Mrs Pickering Polláková, Mrs Tearle and Dr Wallersteiner - spoke in fascinating and rich depth of their time spent living, travelling and working in the region in the 80s and 90s. Pupils were offered a colourful picture of the dark sides (but also of panellists' fonder memories) of life under Communism - of how childhood life could be happy, even though danger and monitoring were never far away; of how propaganda painted a picture (not a wholly inaccurate one!) of life in the West; of the suspicion with which one might be met, whether at home or abroad, as a traveller into Eastern Europe from the UK.

Pupils asked a range of questions of the panellists, covering such varied topics as what forms education, careers, media and economic life took behind the Iron Curtain, as well as questions concerning (for instance) the impact of developments art and architecture in the region, and the ways contemporary Eastern Europeans look back on the Communist period. The event contributed successfully to the Scholars' programme's mission of broadening pupils' perspectives on the world, and of emboldening them to generate insights of their own when delving into difficult topics.

Very many thanks to our Staff panellists for making the event such a success. We look forward to next year's events with enthusiasm.

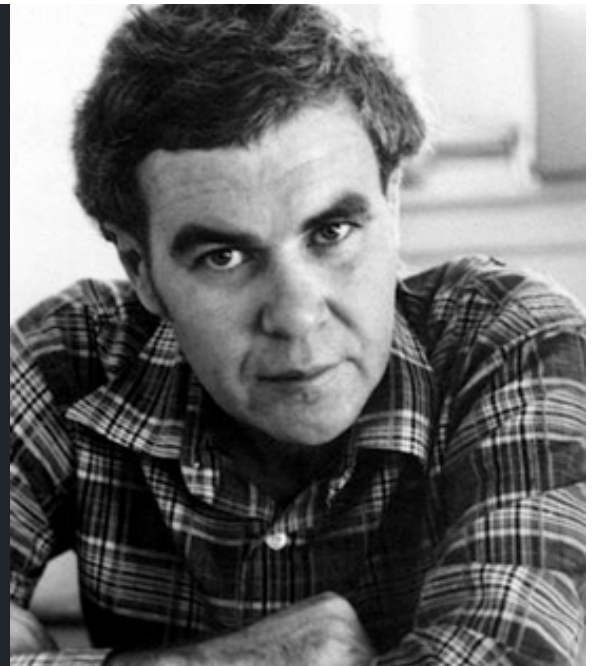
Dr Gavin McCormick, SSAS Co-ordinator

Literary Society Talk: Dr Webber and 'Carver Country'

On Tuesday 6 May, Lower Sixth Media, Film Studies and English Literature pupils met in the Music Room to hear Dr Webber deliver a talk on the famous American short story writer Raymond Carver. Dr Webber began with some background on Carver, who was without doubt a hugely talented if flawed individual. As Dr Webber told us, "Raymond Carver may well be one of the greatest American short story writers. His spare, economical and deeply moving tales deal with loss, regret, Blue Collar failure and the meaning of love. A heavy smoker and recovering alcoholic, he died tragically young, aged 50". Unlike most of his contemporaries who were well known authors (Carver lived between 1938 and 1988), Carver never wrote a novel and stuck to the short story genre. Having given us some background on Carver, Dr Webber treated his audience to a reading of one of his short stories, 'A Small, Good Thing'. This poignant tale, with its unexpected ending, is typical of Carver's writing and brilliantly demonstrated his ability to distil intense emotion into his concentrated prose.

My thanks to Dr Webber for delivering a stimulating and highly engaging talk on one of America's literary greats, and I have no doubt it will encourage those present to seek out more of Carver's works.

James Peppiatt, Faculty Chair English & Media



Imogen Embley Fundraising



Cateran Yomp

On Friday 6 June I will be undertaking a challenging 54-mile hike through the Cairngorms, known as the Cateran Yomp. I have no doubt that it will be a significant physical and mental test to be completed in only 24 hours, especially with my final Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition approaching just two weeks later.

Hiking has not always been a passion of mine, until I completed my Gold DofE practice expedition. I really enjoyed the journey and the peace I find in nature with my own thoughts. The difficult trail up to the peak is always rewarded by a view and a sense of accomplishment.

The opportunity to take part in the Cateran Yomp came up spontaneously and although I initially hesitated, it didn't surprise me that my eagerness soon overcame any fear I felt. Compared to what I have done before, the Snowdonia expedition involved 3,000 metres of total elevation over four days whereas the Yomp will demand more stamina. The elevation gain is slightly less, just over 2,000 metres, but I will be walking much further in a single continuous effort. The added difficulty of sleep deprivation and walking without the company of my friends may put some people off, but I am confident that my strong mentality will keep me determined. This will be the longest and most intense walk I have ever done so I would like to make you aware that there are points along the way where I could finish early at Bronze or Silver distances, though my aim is to complete the full 54 miles.

Christians in Sport

Over the last year, I have begun exploring my faith, actively listening in Chapel and making the effort to hear the word of God more often in Crossfire, Bible Study and Church. As a new believer, I am still learning about Jesus, his teachings and the transformation he can bring into my life. When I made the decision to get to know Jesus and welcome his love, I believe he gave me an open heart so that I could hear what I needed to. I can admit that I struggle with my faith and sometimes feel really disconnected but those moments only prove to me how much I benefit from Jesus versus when I am walking without him. I have hope that one day I will feel his warm presence more consistently because I truly want to build a deeper relationship with him.

I feel connected to this charity because of my faith, and I know that if we abide in Christ, he will abide in us: he is offering himself everyone. A passage that stood out to me recently is John 15:5 when Jesus says "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Every branch that does not bear fruit is cut off and thrown into the fire, and every branch that does bear fruit is pruned in order that it may bear even more fruit." This verse reminds me that remaining connected to Jesus is the only way to lead a fruitful life. The image of Christ as the vine and us as the branches shows how we draw strength and purpose through him. When we remain in him, we bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit transforming our attitude in different situations.

In sport, it is easy to become focused on performance, comparison, or pressure and there are countless stories of athletes reaching peak performance yet still feeling unfulfilled. 'Christians in Sport' is a UK based charity that aims to reach the world of sport for Christ. It matters to me because I believe that elite athletes in high pressure competitive environments need someone to show them that their identity is found not in success or failure, but in Christ.



I recognise how privileged I am to have the opportunity to learn at Stowe and be a part of a community. It is a privilege to have an education at all; for hundreds of millions of children do not even have access to schooling. In face of these staggering statistics, Street Child is working in twenty of the poorest countries to see all children safe, in school and learning especially in low resource environments and emergencies. So far, they have reached 1,449,136 children and 1,022 schools. Stowe is closely connected to Street Child's work and so I thought it was appropriate to contribute myself.

At Stowe, I am part of such a strong, supportive community; frankly, learning about Street Child shows me that it is a privileged to have education at all. It is easily taken for granted, but the harsh reality is that over 250 million children worldwide do not have access to schooling. That staggering number is not just a statistic, but problem that families living in conflict or poverty struggle with daily. Although I associate School mostly with learning and hard work, it is so much more than that. Yes, I'll leave Stowe with academic qualifications, but what I will remember most are the memories made, friendships built and opportunity I have had to grow.

In response to this crisis, Street Child works in some of the world's poorest and most fragile countries to ensure children are safe, in school, and learning especially in emergencies and low-resource environments. So far they have reached over 1.4 million children and supported more than 1,000 schools through various initiatives targeting specific areas. This is helping to provide children not just with access to education, but to a community in which they can take refuge from conflicts, build friendships and discover their interests.

Stowe's close connection to Street Child's mission inspired me to get involved, if only to play a small part in giving others the kind of education I have been so fortunate to receive.

If you are able to contribute, your donation would go directly toward supporting each charity. Sharing would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your kindness and support.

Imogen Embley (Lower Sixth, Queen's)



You can make a donation to Imogen's Go Fund Me [here](#).

SAFEGUARDING - Healthy Relationships

Ten Top Tips to help parents understand the main influences on young people's relationships.

01

Consent and Relationship Education

A growing number of young people misunderstand or disregard the concept of consent, particularly those influenced by figures promoting toxic masculinity. Open, ongoing conversations about consent are crucial for helping teens understand healthy boundaries and behaviours in relationships, even if such talks feel awkward or challenging.

02

Influence of Porn and Social Media

Teens learn more about relationships from porn and social media than from parents. These sources often distort intimacy and respect. Despite the discomfort, parents must have honest conversations about sex, relationships, and online influences to provide accurate, ethical guidance rooted in empathy and respect.

03

Recognising Coercive Control

Coercive control in teen relationships often masquerades as care or concern. It escalates from jealousy to manipulative behaviours. Parents should educate themselves and their children about early warning signs using resources like 'When Love Bites' to safeguard teens from emotional abuse and manipulation.

04

Abuse in Teen Relationships

A Youth Endowment Fund study reveals that 13% of UK teens in relationships experience abuse or control. From constant messaging to physical violence, digital platforms are enabling harmful behaviour. Parents must recognise these signs and discuss technology's role in enabling relationship abuse and manipulation.

05

Language Shift Signals Influence

A change in your teen's vocabulary - terms like 'females', 'simp', or 'feminists are man-haters' - may indicate exposure to toxic online communities like the 'manosphere'. Understanding this coded language helps parents recognise shifts in attitude and intervene with informed conversations about equality, empathy, and respectful discourse.

06

Social Media and Body Image

Unrealistic social media portrayals deeply affect youth self-image. A survey showed 39% of young people have a negative body image, driven by manipulated photos and idealised beauty standards. Encourage discussions about diverse body types and promote role models like Olympians for a healthier body perspective.

07

Masculinity and Violence

Misogynistic online spaces push harmful ideas, linking masculinity to control and entitlement. This environment contributes to rising public sexual harassment and violence. Parents can counteract this by discussing healthy masculinity, using resources like 'For The Love of Men', and spotlighting empathy and emotional intelligence.

08

Algorithmic Manipulation

Teens are unknowingly targeted with disturbing content due to social media algorithms. Boys, in particular, receive misogynistic or violent content without seeking it. Parents should use content filters and foster shame-free, open dialogue about what teens encounter online, helping them critically assess digital content.

09

Ongoing Global Research

Organisations like 'Children and Screens' provide evolving insights into how tech impacts youth. From screen time to social dynamics, parents can stay informed through such research to guide and support their children's digital engagement with evidence-backed strategies and an awareness of long-term developmental effects.

10

Setting Screen Boundaries

Tech overuse affects focus, sleep, and family dynamics. Parents should lead by example - use WiFi restrictions, screen time apps like FOREST, and create tech-free zones. Consistent routines, shared meals, and digital detoxes foster connection, stability, and healthier digital habits for the whole family.



History Essay Prize

Coco Bartoszewski (Lower Sixth, Nugent) was Commended for her entry to the Foundation for the History of Totalitarianism's prestigious Annual Essay Prize. Writing on 'Jung Chang and the Cultural Revolution', Coco demonstrated great intellectual curiosity and dedication to master a topic so far from Stowe's History curriculum. Coco is a regular denizen of the History Society, and has also presented to us on the 'Warsaw Ghetto'.

We would encourage as many Stoics as possible to follow Coco's lead in pushing their academic curiosity beyond the confines of the curriculum.

Dominic Green, Head of History

STOWE HOUSE PRESERVATION TRUST



New Discovery

Work continues to uncover the hidden wall paintings on the Grand East Staircase, and our latest findings are nothing short of spectacular!

As we carefully open exploratory patches along the stairway, we are revealing fascinating details that have been hidden for centuries. One of the most exciting discoveries - gilded fictive frames beneath the paint; delicate, intricate, and shimmering with history! The gilding and overlying glazes are extremely fragile, so tests are being undertaken to establish safe methods of overpaint removal.

On the opposite side, a gilded oval frame can be made out through the modern paint in contrast to the wall designs opposite. Meanwhile, more of the landing itself has been revealed, with floor-to-ceiling sections now visible, and 70% of the west wall is fully uncovered.

Our expert, Rhiannon Clarricoates, is leading tests to determine the best way to uncover and conserve the exposed gilding, ensuring these treasures can be appreciated for generations to come. The Lincoln Conservation team, assisted by university students, worked tirelessly, even staying on-site during the Easter holidays, to bring this hidden masterpiece back to life.

Anna McEvoy, SHPT Co-Director and House Custodian

OLD STOICS



SOS LUNCH

On Wednesday 30 April, the Old Stoic Society hosted a delightful gathering for the Senior Old Stoics (SOS) at The Oriental Club in London. This event marked a significant occasion as it brought together 44 esteemed guests, including Dr Wallersteiner.

The Head delivered an engaging and informative speech, updating the attendees on the latest developments and happenings at Stowe. His words resonated deeply with the Old Stoics, who have cherished memories of their time at School.

The lunch provided an excellent opportunity for the guests to reconnect and reminisce. After a year off from such a gathering, the atmosphere was filled with warmth and camaraderie. The Oriental Club's elegant setting and exceptional service added to the overall experience, making it a memorable event for all. The SOS lunch is more than just a meal; it is a celebration of shared history and enduring friendships. The event underscored the importance of maintaining connections and fostering a sense of community among the Old Stoics.

As the Head concluded his speech, he emphasised the School's commitment to its alumni and the value of these reunions. The guests left with a renewed sense of belonging and anticipation for future gatherings.

Charlie Evans, Old Stoic Society

OS Calendar of Events

We are thrilled to announce a busy and vibrant calendar of Old Stoic events planned for the oncoming weeks. From engaging networking events to fun-filled social gatherings, there's something for everyone. These events are just one of the many benefits of being part of the Old Stoic Society. Whether you are looking to expand your knowledge, network with like-minded individuals or simply catch up with fellow OS, our events offer something for everyone of all ages.

For further information, please visit our [website](#) or [email us](#).
Follow us on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#).

OLD STOIC EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 23 May | Eve of Speech Day Concert - Stowe |
| 24 May | Speech Day & Classic Car Display - Stowe |
| 13 June | Clay Shooting, Holland & Holland - London |

Stowe-Tots



Booking essential:
One Child & One Adult
£5



**Mondays: 19 May,
30 June, 10–10.45am**

A fun-filled sensory play session for families with young babies and preschool toddlers.



Come and play!

SHRAPNEL BOYS

LIFE ON THE HOME FRONT MUSEUM TRAIL

Join us this

May half term!

25 May–1 June 10.30am–4.30pm

Free activity & crafts. Normal admission applies.



Summer Rooftop tours

Wednesday 28 May

6–8pm



Enjoy the chance to climb the noble cantilevered stone staircase to admire the magnificent view from the roof and look over the world-famous Gardens; this truly is 'the finest view in England'.

Booking is essential. £15



Opening Times May 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
The full story (45 minutes) from 10.30am A taster of Stowe (20 minutes) from 11.00am Please note that during term time all access to the House is by guided tour.			1 House Open 10.30-16.30	2 House Open 10.30-16.30	3 House Open 10.30-16.30	4 House Open 10.30-16.30
5 House Open 10.30-16.30	6 House Open 10.30-16.30	7 House Open 10.30-16.30	8 Visitor Centre Only 10.30-16.30	9 House Open 10.30-16.30	10 House Open 10.30-16.30	11 House Open 10.30-16.30
12 House Open 10.30-16.30	13 House Open 10.30-16.30	14 House Open 10.30-16.30	15 House Open 10.30-16.30	16 House Open 10.30-16.30	17 Visitor Centre Only 10.30-16.30	18 House Open 10.30-16.30
19 House Open 10.30-16.30	20 House Open 10.30-16.30	21 House Open 10.30-16.30	22 House Open 10.30-16.30	23 House Open 10.30-16.30	24 House Closed	25 House Open 10.30-16.30
26 House Open 10.30-16.30	27 House Open 10.30-16.30	28 House Open 10.30-16.30	29 House Closed	30 House Closed	31 House Closed	1st June House Open 10.30-16.30

YOGA & SOUND BATH

SATURDAY 14 JUNE 9:30–11:30AM

Energising 45-minute yoga session led by Ilona. Calming sound bath guided by Reiki practitioner and sound healer Ellie. Nourishing treats from SoulBlend — your perfect morning escape.

BOOKING REQUIRED. £35



LINO PRINT WORKSHOP

Saturday 2 August, 10am-4pm

Create your own multi layered summer lino print in a one day workshop with expert printmaker Alexandra Buckle. **£80**



Stars at Stowe

Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 October
6.00–8.00pm

Join us and UK Astronomy for a unique opportunity to learn all about our solar system, its constellations and experience the sky above Stowe, like never before!

Book Your Tickets to the Galaxy
£18 Adult, £12 child



Events at Stowe House

Proceeds from the events hosted by Stowe House Preservation Trust go back into restoring and maintaining this Grade 1 Listed 18th Century masterpiece.

April Change Maker of the Month (CMOM)

Stowe Support Services - Anna Semler, Old Stoic Society Director was recognised for going above and beyond, particularly for all her support with the Old Stoics. Your actions truly embody our Change Maker values.

Swanbourne House - Myroslava Bezman, Domestic Supervisor was awarded Change Maker of the Month, for all her hard work in making such a difference to Swanbourne House.

Winchester House - Jenny Blake, Head Teacher's PA was awarded the Change Maker of the Month for her unerring kindness, wisdom, hard work and sense of humour.

Please join us in congratulating our Winners!

Charity Fundraising

Over the weekend of Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 April, Lyttelton pupils undertook a 1000km challenge to support **Raise Your Hands**, a charity working with vulnerable young people across the UK. The girls, with support of the House team and their families aimed to cumulatively travel 1000km, including running, walking, swimming and rowing. The aim was to raise £2,000 but currently, the girls have raised just over £3,000.

To donate, [click here](#).

On Sunday 11 May, each of the boys in Walpole will be participating in a charity fundraiser by running 15km around the grounds at Stowe, either all in one go, or split into times throughout the day. The aim is to raise as much as possible to split between two charities - **MANUP?** and **Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue Organisation (OVMRO)**. MANUP? is a local men's mental health charity, aiming to provide direct aid and community support and to fund research into male mental health.

To donate, [click here](#).

Ogwen Mountain Rescue Team are a voluntary mountain rescue team based in Northern Snowdonia. They recently helped a Stoic who became injured whilst on a Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition. Stoics on the expedition were shocked to hear the organisation raise all their funds through donations, so wanted to give something back.

To donate, [click here](#).

Angie Brooks from the Stowe Housekeeping Team is walking 31 miles during the month of May to raise funds for **Dementia UK**. Dementia UK is the specialist dementia nursing charity, supporting families affected by the disease. "This awful disease affects so many people and their families and I just want to do something to raise some money towards helping them," said Angie.

Please **donate** whatever you can to help and support those that are living with this horrible disease.

MATHS ANSWER Solution B: Let the number of £2 coins Ria has be $2X$. Therefore she has $3X$ £1 coins. The total value of her coins, in pounds, is $1 \times 3X + 2 \times 2X = 7X$. We are told that she has £35 in total and hence $7X = 35$, which has solution $X = 5$. Therefore the number of £2 coins Ria has is $2 \times 5 = 10$.



HORWOOD HOUSE
HOTEL | SPA | ESTATE

THE STOWE GROUP, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HORWOOD HOUSE, ARE PLEASED TO EXTEND THE FOLLOWING EXCLUSIVE OFFERS TO ALL STOWE GROUP PARENTS :

15% OFF

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- HARRY'S BAR AND KITCHEN

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Please note all offers and discounts are subject to date availability

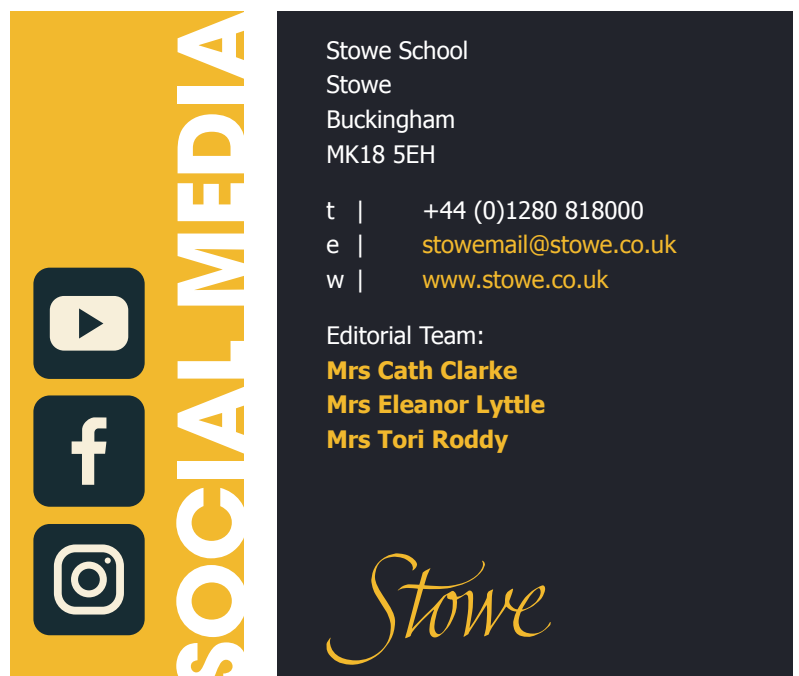
www.horwoodhouse.co.uk



WELLNESS MORNING

Stowe Parents **YOGA & SOUND BATH**

Saturday 14 June
9.30 - 11.30am
Booking Required £35



SOCIAL MEDIA

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